

# Floyd Witt Named to Wasatch Sheriff Post

Floyd Witt was named Sheriff of Wasatch County at a special meeting of the County Commissioners on Tuesday. Mr. Witt was selected after the Commissioners had reviewed several applicants.

The new sheriff will take over his duties with the experience of six years of deputy work behind him.

Mr. Witt is a life-long resident of Wasatch County. A graduate of Wasatch High School, he has also taken several courses in law enforcement work, including an FBI course. He is a First Aid Instructor for the Red Cross, Livestock Brand Inspector for the State of Utah for the past ten years and a District Commissioner on the Boy Scout Advancement Committee.

Mr. Witt's appointment will become effective on September 15. He replaces Eugene Payne who resigned as sheriff to accept a position as an instructor at the Wasatch High School.

Mr. Witt has indicated that he will employ former sheriff Payne on a limited part-time basis as deputy sheriff until he starts on his new budget on January 1, 1958. Mr. Payne will serve legal papers and do some night patrolling.

Mr. Witt states that the department will continue to enforce the law in the same outstanding pattern set by Sheriff Payne.

Mr. Witt is married to the former Wilma Street and the father of three children.

## Deer Hunt Contest Promotion Planned By Chamber

underway for a big season to be held in the fall at the Chamber

## Football Season Opens at WHS

The Wasatch High School Wasp football team will open their fall season this coming Friday as they motor to Lehi for a practice game. The first league game will be played with Morgan High School next Friday on the Wasp field at 6th and 1st East at 1:30 p. m.

# The Wasatch News

VOLUME SIXTY-EIGHT

HEBER CITY, UTAH, THURSD

EMBER 12, 1957

NUMBER TWENTY-

## Civil Air Patrol for Heber Municip

## Old Air Fair at

## Earwigs Becoming Serious Nuisance In Wasatch Co.

Rao

The European Earwig is a serious nuisance in County, Extension Agent Daniels, pointed out today. Community action is needed to secure the most effect of this pest, he stated. This is not possible, all people, a block or on several adjacent blocks should spray at the time. It is best not to leave untreated lots or areas. Earwigs move out from untreated places to reinfest areas where

Sheriff's Patrol Volunteer

FRONT Row: LEFT - RIGHT

RAY SHAW, ROY KENDALL, ROBERT NICOL  
PHIL PROBST

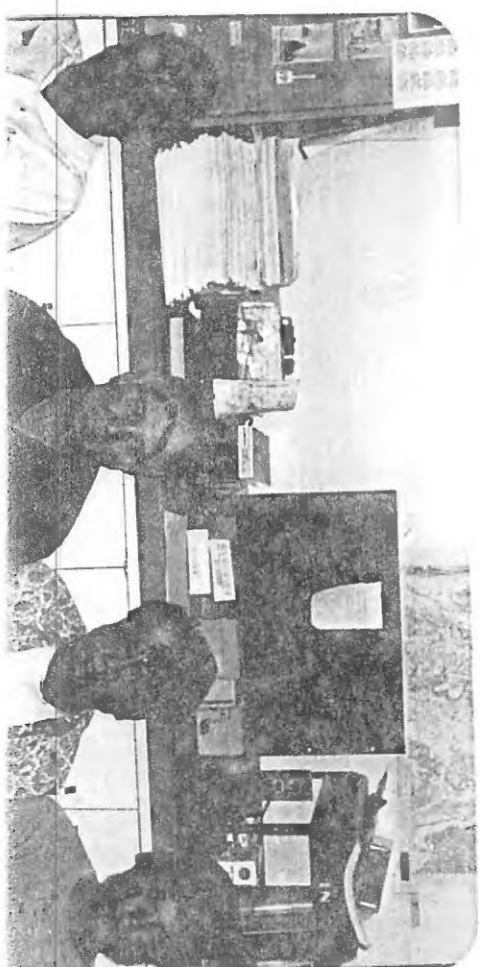
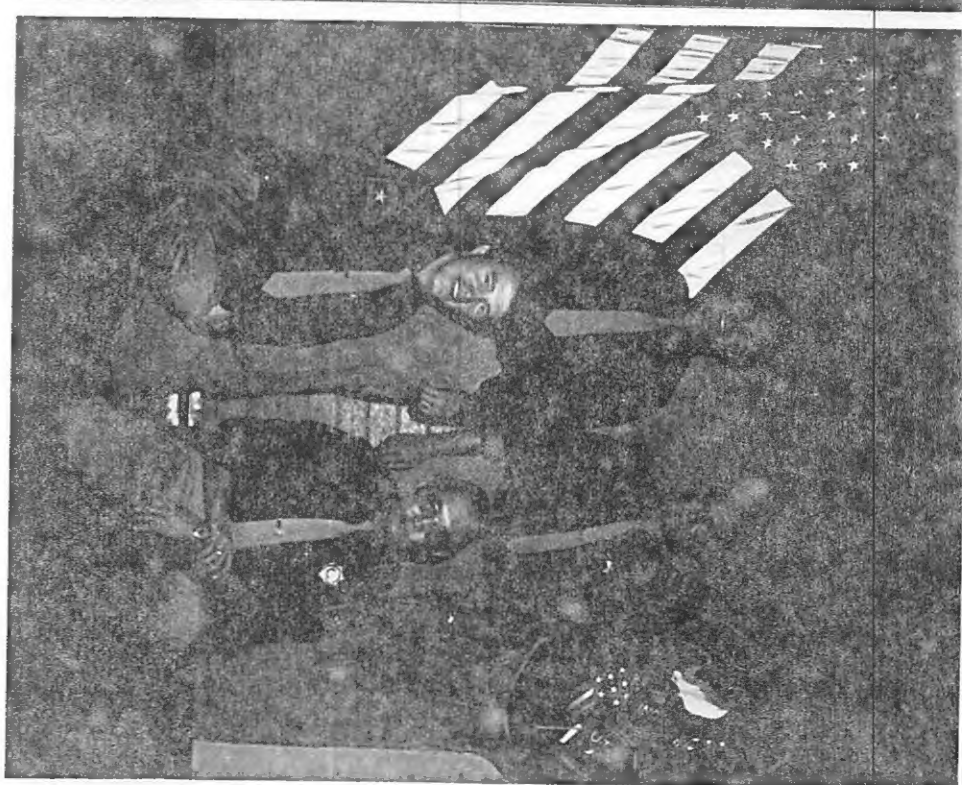
2<sup>ND</sup> Row: LEFT - RIGHT

HOWARD BAUMANN, BLOYD PROVOST, VANCE FARREL,  
ED THACKER, SHERIFF MIKE SPANOS,  
FLOYD WITT

BACK Row: - LEFT - RIGHT

WAYNE CLEGG, CAL GILES, PHIL SWEAT,  
DARWIN JOHNSON, KIM WITT, JERRY BEISK,  
TOM HOWARD, DICK NICOL

PLEASE REVIEW PICTURE!





# Sheriff Witt Will Run

Incumbent Sheriff Floyd L. Witt has filed for re-election on the Wasatch County Democratic Ticket.

Mr. Witt, who is a life-long resident of Wasatch County, lives with his wife and three children at 248 West 2nd North, Heber.

Born to a nearly Pioneer family, Witt was educated in Wasatch County School. He spent four years in the armed forces during World War II.

Mr. Witt has been working in law enforcement for the past 18 years. He is a graduate of the F.B.I. National Academy at Washington, D. C., and he is the only peace officer in this area to receive this extensive police schooling. Mr. Witt spent \$1,180.00 of his own personal funds in order to receive the police academy instruction.

Sheriff Witt is also a graduate of both the Wyoming Law Enforcement Academy and the Utah peace officer training school at Camp Williams.

Sheriff Witt is active in Boy Scouts and is presently "advanced chairman" of the Wasatch County Scouts. He is active in church and civic affairs.

"If re-elected Mr. Witt promises "continued enforcement to keep Wasatch County free of immorality and lawlessness to the best of my ability."



SHERIFF FLOYD WITT



## Ex-Sheriff Recalls Early Years as a Lot Easier

By Blair Feulner  
Tribune Correspondent



Floyd Witt  
Years of Change

HEBER CITY — "Twenty-five years ago, if you suspected somebody of a crime, you just went out and arrested them and put them in jail.

"Now days," observed former Wasatch County Sheriff Floyd Witt who left office last week, "You can't even talk to a suspect until you have the evidence."

The third-longest serving sheriff in Utah, Mr. Witt's 22-year tenure ended Jan. 1, following an unsuccessful bid for a sixth term in office.

"I guess people just thought it was time for a change," he commented. The election also saw an incumbent county commissioner and justice of the peace go down to defeat.

### Deputy Six Years

A deputy for six years before being appointed sheriff in 1952, Mr. Witt has seen a lot of changes since he started as a \$175 per month lawman.

"Law enforcement has become much more mechanized," he said, and rural peace officers have had to become more professional, shedding the "good old boy" image.

"With the rulings of the Warren Supreme Court, it became completely different—we had to become much more educated in law enforcement."

The kinds of problems faced by lawmen here have also changed as the demand for recreation has drawn more people to the forests and reservoirs of Wasatch County.

### Fishing Opener a Problem

"On the big weekends, like fishing opener, we will get up to 50,000 people coming up here," said Mr. Witt. That meant more time had to be devoted to traffic control, fire fighting and search and rescue.

In addition, the hundreds of summer cabins that now line the dirt back roads of Wasatch County, have created headaches for lawmen because they are isolated and easy targets for vandals and burglars.

The increasing popularity of snowmobiles has compounded the problem because, he said, "Now they can go anywhere they want in the winter."

Vandalism, along with drugs and juvenile-related problems, is on the increase here, according to Mr. Witt. He blames a changing local economy for some of it.

"When I grew up everybody worked on the farm from the time they got up in the morning, they had chores to do."

### Too Busy, Too Tired

That meant, he noted, that a teen-ager who worked on a farm was generally too busy and too tired to "go out and raise much hell."

Now teen-agers here have cars and Heber City's Main Street is crowded with adolescent traffic after dark.

"When I went to school, all you could do was go to the dances and the picture show. Now the kids can get in a car and be anywhere in an hour."

Mr. Witt also noted a difference in the type of crimes people were committing here. "We're getting somewhat of a harder element now.

"People used to drink a little beer on Saturday night, but we never had anybody hit over the head with beer bottles — they just used their fists."

But, allowing for that, the former sheriff thinks Wasatch County is still a good place to live.

"We're pretty non-violent, we don't have murders and rapes . . . overall, it's been a pretty darned good county to raise a family in," he concluded.

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**Took a risk and lost**

# Sheriff hunts new job

By Kris Radtch

Nov 1978

Deseret News correspondent

HEBER, Wasatch County — Floyd Witt says he is not bitter. He knows politics is risky. He took the risk and lost, that's all.

After 21 years as sheriff of Wasatch County, Witt is busy looking for another job. He lost his chance for re-election when he was defeated in September's primary.

"I don't feel good about it," Witt admits. "Sure I was surprised, but that's the risk when you are involved in politics — there never is a guarantee that next year you will be doing what you did this year."

Witt says he will miss his job, and after 27 years in law enforcement he is positive his life will take on some drastic changes.

"When you go to bed or plan a family outing there is never a guarantee that you won't have to rush off somewhere in a second," Witt says. "It's a 24-hour-a-day job."

Years ago, when his four children were growing up, Witt and his wife Wilma had planned a trip to the Salt Lake zoo.

"We planned and talked about it all summer," Witt says. "We started to go and we got to the Point of the Mountain and I had to race back to a fire," he remembered. "Things like that I won't miss."

Witt has seen the county and law enforcement go through lots of changes. While Wasatch County is not a major crime area, Witt says it is not devoid of problems, either.

"It used to be where anyone could strap on a gun and suddenly they were a police officer," Witt says. "Not anymore. It's turning into a highly technical field."

He says just about all of the problems in Wasatch County can be attributed to drugs or alcohol, and traffic. Traffic-related problems have had a dramatic increase over the years.

"Thefts, traffic violations, almost anything that happens here can all be traced back to drugs or alcohol," Witt says. "Ten years ago we never had half this much traffic here, but I'm just thankful we don't have more problems because of it."

With three full-time deputies and a posse with 25 men, Witt says there are times when he could use even more help.

"This is a recreation area, and it used to be easier, but now with all the winter sports we are going constantly all year round," Witt says.

The sheriff is not complaining, though. The excitement and variety of the job is what has kept him hooked.

"You never know what will happen," he says. "One minute you are saving someone's life or putting out a fire and the next you might be looking down the barrel of someone's shotgun."

There have only been two homicides in Wasatch County during the past 27 years, but Witt says the close calls are too many to remember.

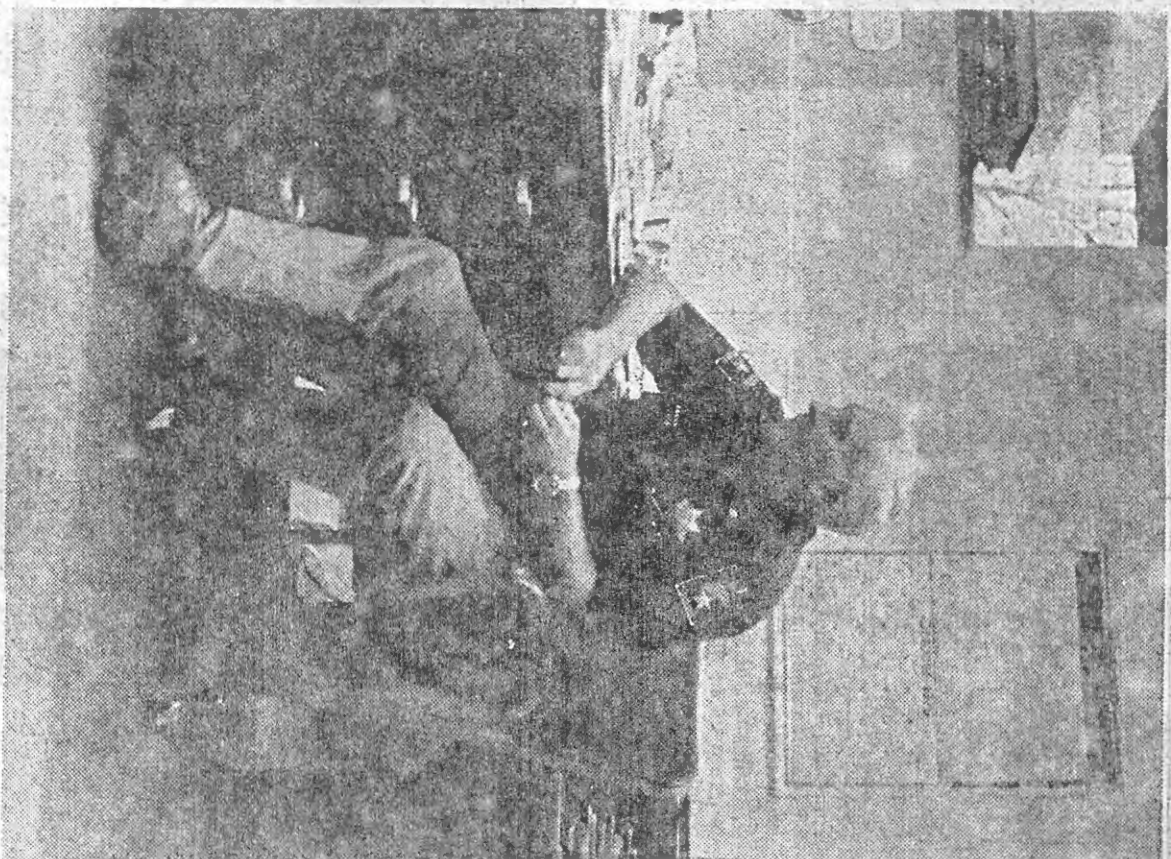
"The worst things are family fights," Witt says. "You always get in the middle and more than once there has been a gun involved."

Notifying families of deaths has been the hardest part of Witt's job. He said there is no easy way to do that, and it is always a painful experience.

Along with his sheriff duties Witt has taught first aid in the county for the past 25 years. He has long been a swimming instructor for Red Cross.

"You don't just push around papers in a county that doesn't have a dense population," Witt says. "Here you do everything — budgets, fight fires, mob control, search and rescue — you have to be a jack of all trades."

While the office is the only law enforcement position that doesn't require prior training, Witt feels that it should be.



Floyd Witt has been Wasatch County sheriff for 21 years.

Took a risk and lost

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Nov 16, 1978

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Republican



**Mike Spanos**

Since leaving the sheriff's office in January 1987, after eight progressive years as Wasatch County Sheriff, Mike Spanos has been pursuing his lifelong interest in law enforcement and seeks to put this additional experience to work for Wasatch County. He feels he is the best choice for Wasatch County Sheriff because:

1) His qualifications and successful experience include eight years as your sheriff, a B.S. degree in criminology with emphasis certificates in child welfare and juvenile delinquency from the University of Utah, a B.S. degree in law enforcement and corrections from Weber State, 8-1/2 years with the USAF Security Service, two years CIA investigations, State of Utah certified police officer and jail administrator, four years working for

Continued on Page 8A

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Continued on Page 8A

• Wednesday, October 31, 1990

## Spanos...

Continued from Page 7A  
the Utah Department of Corrections (prison and parole) and eight years business management with Sears.

2) He is hard working, a proven effective administrator who can bring unity back to the sheriff's department and has close working relationships with statewide police and social service agencies.

3) He is innovative. During his administration he brought to the county such programs as 911, central dispatch, McGruff Safe House Program, bad check collection and prosecution, and an active reserve force.

4) He is concerned about efficient use of county resources; decreases in planning, overall criminal cases and administration; drug traffic and abuse; vandalism; lack of prevention programs; need for countywide patrolling.

5) He is responsive to citizen concerns and needs. He will continually upgrade and train the department to meet the increased need as a result of recreation and Jordanelle. He has previously, and will again, provide the quality law enforcement that you deserve.

6) He will stand on his record. He will provide honesty and integrity, and active, dynamic, dependable leadership. He will implement *service* as the governing concept of law enforcement.



**Mike Spanos**

## Thanks

I want to express my sincere appreciation to those who made it possible that I might serve again as Sheriff. I pledge that in the next four years, service and integrity will be the governing concepts.

In response to the letter printed last week, the figures of the green flyers were those provided for me from the records of the County Clerk's Office. These figures were re-checked by me and others before printing. The figures are accurate and if anyone is interested or concerned, I will be glad to provide a copy of the printout that was given to me by the County Clerk's Office.

Again, thanks to all those who

Mike Spanos

11-21-90





**Edd Thacker**

oters of Wasatch County: As  
sheriff for the past four years,  
*still the right choice* Nov. 6  
eriff of Wasatch County.

am familiar with the people  
needs of Wasatch County,  
gh my 14 years of *local* law  
cement. My "hands-on" expe-  
e and my willingness to assist  
the handling of day-to-day law  
cement problems are impor-  
n a small department.

have encouraged my depart-  
members to have a positive  
cooperative attitude in all that  
do. We have strived to be  
pletely cooperative with  
ol, public safety, and all local  
statewide agencies. I have  
sed courtesy and professional-  
at all times.

am a lifetime resident of  
atch County. I served as a full-

Continued on Page 8A

## E. Thacker...

Continued from Page 7A

time deputy, as a jailer/dispatcher for the Wasatch County Sheriff's Office. Chief of Police for Midway and for the past four years I have served as your sheriff.

I am currently involved in Drug and Alcohol Education and Prevention programs; the Utah Substance Abuse Coordinating Council-Criminal Justice Subcommittee; chairman of the Community Health Coalition for Wasatch and Summit Counties; Wasatch County Child Protection Team member; serve on the School Advocacy Council; former member of the Governor's Council on Criminal Justice-Youth, Drug and Alcohol Committee.

I feel very strongly that we need to pursue and continue our attack on drugs. Law enforcement officials need to stay knowledgeable and up-to-date on all drug and alcohol problems. Their abuse effects not only our youth, but negatively impacts our entire community.

I am planning ahead to prepare for the impact the proposed developments will bring to the county with improvements in communications systems, emergency management systems, and new facilities.

I feel you deserve as your sheriff the *best trained, most experienced* person to serve in this capacity. *I am that person.*

the mileage and wages provided by

## Sheriff's Office Encourages Reports About Hungry Livestock

1-30-91

The Wasatch County Sheriff's Office is receiving about ten calls a week reporting livestock that appear not to be properly fed, according to Sgt. Lance Gardner.

It can be hard for a passing motorist to tell from a distance the condition of a horse or cow in a field, and sometimes it turns out that the animals are okay. Other reports prove to be well-founded and, as a result, sick and dying animals have received the care they needed.

But Gardner encourages people to report every case in which they suspect an animal is not being taken care of and assures that every report is investigated.

According to Dr. Lee Erickson, Heber City veterinarian, horses can get enough water from snow and can dig through the snow to get to the feed below, as long as there isn't a crust on the snow. They also can feed on what's available above the snow, like willows. But he said in zero degree weather, the snow should be scraped away to make the grass available or extra food should be provided.

## Sheriff Elected Vice President of Utah Sheriff's Association



Wasatch County Sheriff Mike Spanos was elected second vice president of the Utah Sheriff's Association governing board last week during a training meeting of the organization.



**Mike Spanos**  
Sheriff





# EDD THACKER

## YOUR SHERIFF FOR THE "90's"

"My efforts, as your sheriff, have produced good results, by working to increase the efficiency of our local law enforcement department for the protection of Wasatch County"

- As a lifetime resident of Wasatch County I am acutely aware of our local law enforcement needs.
- I am TRAINED - EDUCATED - CERTIFIED and INFORMED !
- In the last four years, as your sheriff, the law enforcement needs of Wasatch County have been met. We now have a "Positive" attitude towards local law enforcement in Wasatch County. Better cooperation and communication with the following: Wasatch County Search & Rescue, Heber City Police Dept., Utah Highway Patrol, Department of Social Services, Timpanogos Mental Health, Drug & Alcohol, Wasatch County School District, the U.S. Forest Service, Midway City, State Forestry & Fire Control, State Parks, Wasatch County Fire District and Juvenile, district and circuit courts. THIS WAS NOT HAPPENING FOUR YEARS AGO.
- I have been successful in the "War on Drugs". Our department has successfully investigated, arrested and prosecuted drug cases every year which included: cultivation, distribution, transportation and the use of drugs. We continue to educate students and citizens with Drug Prevention Programs.
- The attack on crime is apparent. The number of burglaries and thefts have been reduced by almost half since I took office, saving the citizens of Wasatch County over \$100,000. Serious problems have been dealt with including: physical & sexual abuse of children, spouse abuse, bad checks and other criminal offenses.
- I am planning for the future needs of Wasatch County's law enforcement.  
GROWTH - DEVELOPMENT - CHANGE
- I am not just a "9 to 5" sheriff. I have done and will do what it takes to get the job done.
- I am still " the right choice " November 6th.

*Sheriff Edd Thacker*

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**STILL**

**"THE RIGHT CHOICE"**

November 6th

★★★★★

**EDD THACKER**

FOR

**WASATCH COUNTY**

**SHERIFF** 10-29-90

**NOT JUST A "9 to 5" SHERIFF**

# MIKE SPANOS

## The Easy Choice For SHERIFF

### Experience for Efficient Enforcement

- 8 Years as Wasatch County Sheriff During the Dept's Most Progressive and Financially Stable Era.
- BS Degree Criminology, University of Utah
- BS Degree Law Enforcement and Corrections, Weber State
- 8 Years USAF Security Service, 2 Years CIA Investigations
- Certified Utah Police Officer, Certified Jail Administrator
- 8 Years Business Management
- 4 Years Utah Dept. of Corrections, Prison and Parole
- Over 300 Arrests Resulting in Criminals Being Returned to Prison
- Knowledge of the Criminal Element in Utah
- Close Working Relationships with State-Wide Police Agencies

### Energetic Style for Emerging Essentials

#### *MIKE'S CONCERNS INCLUDE:*

- Residents and Business Getting the Most for Their Law Enforcement Dollars
- Drug Traffic and Abuse
- Lack of Law Enforcement Involvement in Drug & Alcohol Education and Prevention
- Increased Recreation Traffic, Impact of Jordanelle
- Decreased Patrolling, Criminal Cases, Planning & Administration
- Child Abuse, Spouse Abuse

**SERVICE** is the Governing  
Concept of Law Enforcement



VOTE
**A Message**
VOTE  
 From  
**Sheriff Edwin Thacker**

As we approach the General Election for Sheriff of Wasatch County I would like you the citizens to know:

As your Sheriff I have been totally committed to provide, Quality Law Enforcement for our community.

*I Would Appreciate Your Vote*

**Nov. 6th**

VOTE
**Your Sheriff**
VOTE  
**for the 90's**

10-3-90



# EDD THACKER

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# Wasatch-Summit Substance Abuse Prevention Receives Top Award



The Wasatch-Summit County Community Health Coalition, funded by the Kaiser Foundation, was one of only four substance abuse programs to receive national recognition by the Secretary of Health and Human Services. The exemplary award was presented to Wasatch County Sheriff Edd Thacker (left), chairman of the coalition, by Dr. Suzanne Mond, assistant director.

organizing similar programs. Hopkins further reported that a community survey has already begun that will be compared to a survey taken before the coalition began its work, to determine what changes and progress have taken place. When the survey is completed and the information is compiled, it will be made public.

## Shop at Home

School president. Next Board meeting is scheduled for Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. in the Board room of the District Office.

ing of accounts of hearing and gratitude to God from the congregation make up the other. The Lord's Prayer, silent prayer and hymns of praise are also an important part of this worship service.

Local members of these Christian Science Churches warmly invite their friends and neighbors in surrounding communities to join them in giving thanks to God this Thursday, Thanksgiving Day. Care for young children will be avail-



# Wasatch County Residents Need

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## **MIKE SPANOS SHERIFF**

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*Experiences: since leaving the Sheriff Office Spanos involvement has included:*

- *Specialist on the State Fugitive Apprehension Team that has been instrumental in apprehending and returning to prison more than 300 convicted criminals.*
- *Regular work with state wide law enforcement entities:  
FBI, Drug Enforcement Agency, Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, Secret Service,  
and Immigration*
- *Consolidated Law Enforcement Training*
- *Supervision of high risk criminals after their release from prison.*

*While Wasatch County Sheriff:*

*Mike Spanos instituted the following programs for the benefit of the county residents:*

- *911 was established*
- *Mc Gruff Safe House Program*
- *Child Fingerprinting & Safety*
- *Bad Check Collection & Prosecution*
- *First County Reserve Force*
- *24 Hour Coverage*
- *County - Wide Regular Patrol  
First Central Dispatch*
- *Drug and Alcohol Education Training*

# Wasatch County Residents Need

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## **MIKE SPANOS SHERIFF**

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*Experiences: since leaving the Sheriff Office Spanos involvement has included:*

- *Specialist on the State Fugitive Apprehension Team that has been instrumental in apprehending and returning to prison more than 300 convicted criminals.*
- *Regular work with state wide law enforcement entities:  
FBI, Drug Enforcement Agency, Alcohol, Tobacco & Firearms, Secret Service,  
and Immigration*
- *Consolidated Law Enforcement Training*
- *Supervision of high risk criminals after their release from prison.*

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## Sheriff's Office Encourages Reports About Hungry Livestock

The Wasatch County Sheriff's Office is receiving about ten calls a week reporting livestock that appear not to be properly fed, according to Sgt. Lance Gardner.

It can be hard for a passing motorist to tell from a distance the condition of a horse or cow in a field, and sometimes it turns out that the animals are okay. Other reports prove to be well-founded and, as a result, sick and dying animals have received the care they needed.

But Gardner encourages people to report every case in which they suspect an animal is not being taken care of and assures that every report is investigated.

According to Dr. Lee Erickson, Heber City veterinarian, horses can get enough water from snow and can dig through the snow to get to the feed below, as long as there isn't a crust on the snow. They also can feed on what's available above the snow, like willows. But he said in zero degree weather, the snow should be scraped away to make the grass available or extra food should be provided. 1-30-91

## Sheriff Elected Vice President of Utah Sheriff's Association



Wasatch County Sheriff Mike Spanos was elected second vice president of the Utah Sheriff's Association governing board last week during a training meeting of the organization.